



Tillandsia
Newsletter of the Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society
For Miami-Dade County and the Florida Keys
Promoting the preservation, conservation, and restoration
of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

MARCH 2024

Chapter Calendar

See <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/> for Dade and Broward Chapter activities

March 16: 26th Annual NATIVE PLANT DAY presented by DCFNPS
Please volunteer (*sign up now*), donate plants and other items, spread the word – and attend!

March 26: DCFNPS meeting. “Native Plant Gardening for Moths” – David Fine

April 14: Yard visit in Pinecrest – Save the date

April 23: DCFNPS meeting

DADE CHAPTER’S NEW ONLINE PLANT STORE

We're excited to announce our chapter's new online plant store <https://store.dade.fnpschapters.org/> created by board member Charlie



Reverte and long-time member Raul Moas. Our goal is to increase access to hard-to-find native plants and make them easy to buy online. This pop-up store is an experiment, but if we get a good response we will keep it running and expand. All plants have been grown and donated by Raul Moas and proceeds benefit the chapter. You can pick up your plants in person at Raul's house in Pinecrest, at our monthly meetings, or have them delivered to your home for a fee. Use the discount code “tillandsia” for a members-only 10% discount, valid for seven days.



26th ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT DAY
Saturday, March 16, 2024, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A. D. (Doug) Barnes Park
(3401 SW 72nd Ave., off Bird Road)



Sponsored by
the Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society
& Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces



Free event and parking.

Enjoy a day full of programs, nature walks (including an early birding walk at 8 AM), educational tables by organizations and agencies, plant and merchandise sales, raffles, activities for all ages, plenty of networking, socializing, and enjoying nature in the park. **See the schedule and other information:** <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/> or <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/>.

We can't do it without the help of our members and friends.
Please volunteer, donate plants and other items, spread the word – and attend!

♦ **VOLUNTEER.** ***Please sign up [here](#) as soon as possible (and by March 11).*** Family and friends volunteering should be signed up separately. Some duties are:

- **On Friday afternoon:** Hang banners, place signs, carry supplies inside for overnight security.
- **On Saturday:** 7:30-9:00 set-up. 9:00-4:00: Direct traffic to parking and plant pickup; move plant purchases from sale to holding area; welcome tent (with plant holding area); hands-on activities (activities for children, families, learners of all ages); chapter information tent; book/merchandise sale; raffles; chapter plant sale. Break down 4:00-4:30.

Plant knowledge is helpful at the raffle and chapter plant sale, but otherwise no special skills or knowledge are required for most positions (you will learn on the job).

Sign up for your preferred task and time slot, and enter a note if you can't work all of that time slot or have other limitations or preferences. Refer to the event schedule at <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/>. We will contact you after the volunteer schedule is final.

Questions: Brian Diaz at briandiaz1210@gmail.com.

◆ **DONATE ITEMS.** Please bring (or send with someone else) on Friday (11:30-3:30) or Saturday (after 7:30).

We will try to pick up plants if you can't deliver or send with someone else. (Contact Brian, briandiaz1210@gmail.com)

Native plants (4" to 3-gallon pots) for the chapter sale and raffles. *** Please label each pot with the common and/or scientific name using paper or tape. (Try to email the species and count in advance to pharespl@gmail.com so we can prepare information.)

Non-plant raffle items: Books, artwork, gardening items, gift certificates, entrance passes, etc. related to nature, natural history.

Small plants or items for freebies (for children or adults). Past copies of the FNPS *Palmetto* magazines are good.

Seeds of SE Florida native species that might be of interest to others (giveaways). No need to make individual packets unless you want to. (Try to email the species name in advance to pharespl@gmail.com so we can prepare information.)

◆ **BRING a GARDEN CART** for use by volunteers to haul plants from the sale to the plant holding (while you are at the event).

Also bring flat boxes and bags for plant shoppers to carry their small purchases.

◆ **SPREAD THE WORD** to friends, family, colleagues.

<https://dade.fnpschapters.org/> or <https://dade.fnpschapters.org/events/>. Also see social media @dedefnps. Fliers and posters to print and use are available in the attachments section of the events calendar page.

Contact: Brian Diaz at briandiaz1210@gmail.com or the chapter at DadeFNPS@gmail.com or 305-985-3677.

*Thank you for your support of the Dade Chapter FNPS, native plants and native plant communities.
We look forward to seeing you there!*

DADE CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, March 26, 2024, 7:30 PM

Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 SW 57 Ave. (Red Road), Miami

Free and open to all

“Native Plant Gardening for Moths”

– David Fine, Founder and operator of the Keys Moths website and YouTube channel

Butterfly gardening has become quite popular and native host and nectar plants for butterfly species are being planted to attract all of these day flying beauties. What I hope to bring to the table is a discussion on some of the plants we can use in our gardens to house some of our wonderful moth fauna as well! We will go over some of the Southern species that frequent our gardens when we have the right plants!



David Fine has taken citizen science to the extreme! He has been surveying the moths of the Florida Keys since 2002 and has identified over 630 species of moths just from Monroe County including a few species that have never been seen before and has published his findings on his website: www.keysmoths.com. David specializes in documenting life cycles of butterflies and moths of Florida by way of photograph as well as video and has a growing YouTube channel highlighting his Lepidoptera adventures in Florida on his KEYS MOTHS [YouTube channel](#). He currently sits as the chairman of the board of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society, an organization that specializes in the advancement of knowledge of Lepidoptera in the Southeastern USA.

Photo: David with a friendly *Eumorpha labruscae*, the [gaudy sphinx](#).

- **Come early or stay late** to socialize and browse the **merchandise** and **raffle**. The raffle follows the program.
- **Thank you for your raffle contributions** (native plants, plant-related books, etc.)! **Please label each plant with at least the common name on paper, tape or stake** (more info welcome).
- **Online viewing:** Live-streamed and recorded on **YouTube**. www.youtube.com/channel/UCmassuC5-OsAX2KsRYQ6X5A You will see only the computer-based portions of the meeting. Chat will be enabled.
- **Past presentations:** Use the **YouTube** link above or from DadeFNPS.org. **Click Videos** or **Live** for available recordings. (Note: The February meeting was not recorded due to Internet connection failure.)
- **Questions?** Email DadeFNPS@gmail.com, text 305-985-3677

April 23, 2024, program: “Prioritizing native Florida plants in the urban food forest: Expanding the concept of resilient food systems” – Dr. Cara Rockwell, Assistant Professor, Department of Earth and Environment, Florida International University

DADE CHAPTER and FNPS NEWS

Welcome new members! Adrian Alvarez, Steven Barturen, Beth Beligan, Sandra Brand, Lesley Perez, Donna Torres, Anabel Valdes and Danilo Castro, Andres Vila

Call for DCFNPS Board Nominations

DCFNPS is accepting nominations for the chapter Board of Directors as our May 28 Annual General Members Meeting approaches. Open positions are President, Vice-President and several Directors At-Large, all for 2-year terms. The nominating committee will present a proposed slate.

Nominate yourself or someone else (*with their permission*) to one of these positions. Botanical expertise is not a prerequisite for serving on the board. **Anyone with enthusiasm for native plants and any skills that would help the chapter thrive is encouraged to consider serving on the board.** Please send questions and nominations by May 1 to DadeFNPS@gmail.com.

OTHER EVENTS, NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dade Native Plant Workshop, Mar. 19, 5 p.m., see <https://nativeplantworkshop.ning.com/> for details. **Topic:** Hardwood hammock trees. Old hands and new learners are encouraged to come.

Florida Keys Native Plant Workshop (virtual meeting), Mar. 19, 5:30 p.m. For info, email FKNPW@outlook.com. The FKNPW is looking for volunteer presenters for 2024. If you would like to present on plants native to the Florida Keys, please email Jim at james.duquesnel@fiu.edu or call Jim at 305-304-4445 with any ideas. Presenting is a great way to learn!

Miami-Dade Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) program hosts workdays (with fun/educational components).

March 21: International Day of Forests, Rockdale Pineland Preserve. See www.miamidade.gov/environment/endangered-lands-volunteer.asp.

John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park: Delicate Balance of Nature lecture series on Wednesday evenings, 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm, through March. Seating is limited. See the links for more info or contact Elena.Muratori@FloridaDEP.gov. Plant focused programs:

Mar. 13: “Applying Ecological Principles in the Garden Ecosystem” – Dr. Cynthia Nazario-Leary, UF/IFAS Alachua County

Mar. 27: “39 Years! Fairchild’s Plant Conservation Work in The Keys” – Jennifer Possley, FTBG



The **Underline**, a 10-mile linear park under Miami’s Metrorail, is recruiting applicants for our **Green Leaders Apprenticeship Program!** Are you a **Miami Dade College student?** Do you want to get paid to learn about native plants and work outdoors? Each summer, The Underline selects five students from Miami Dade College to participate in our apprenticeship program and work alongside our horticulture team.

Green Leaders is an 8-week, paid apprenticeship (May 20- July 11), where you will learn what it takes to create and maintain the diverse gardens on The Underline and how to care for our native plants. Along the way, there will be workshops on various horticulture topics, lectures by local professionals, and field trips to natural areas.

Interested applicants can scan the QR code to apply, or contact our Horticulturist: asha.bertsch@theunderline.org



Florida Wildflower Foundation. The recording of the **February 21 Webinar “Wildflowers and Weeds: Exploring What Native Means”** presented by Marc Frank, Extension botanist, UF Herbarium can be seen [here](#). **March 20, 2 p.m., webinar: “From Bunkers to Butterflies: Conservation of South Florida’s Lepidoptera at Zoo Miami’s Butterfly Lab”** presented by Tiffany Moore, Conservation and Research Specialist at Zoo Miami. [Learn more and register](#). To sign up for the newsletter, join, or find upcoming webinars, field trips and events see www.flawildflowers.org/

Help ensure that you're in the loop! Move DadeFNPS@gmail.com and [@FNPS.org](https://www.fnps.org) email out of junk/spam/promotions and into your inbox, and add those senders to your email contacts.

The Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) is a non-profit organization formed in 1980.

Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society - For Miami-Dade and the Florida Keys
Chapter communication: DadeFNPS@gmail.com, 305-985-3677, www.DadeFNPS.org/
Mail: Dade Chapter FNPS, 6619 S. Dixie Hwy, #181, Miami FL 33143-7919

Board members and team members:

President: Brian Diaz **Vice-President:** Steve Woodmansee **Secretary:** Lydia Cuni **Treasurer:** Susan Walcutt
At Large: Joey Basna, Riki Bonnema, Gwen Burzycki, Charlie Reverte, Jeanne Rothchild, Jennifer Stine
FNPS Council of Chapters representative: Lydia Cuni

Newsletter editor: Patty Phares **Mail Chimp communications:** Lydia Cuni **Webmaster:** Haniel Pulido Jr., dadefnpsweb@gmail.com

***Tillandsia* Newsletter**

Please contact the editor if you might like to join the *Tillandsia* staff.

Articles, announcements and news items are invited for *Tillandsia* from Dade and Keys members. Advertising rates from \$12 per month.

Florida Native Plant Society

FNPS communication: info@fnps.org, 321-271-6702, <http://www.fnps.org>

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Did you miss a *Tillandsia* newsletter? See past newsletters at dade.fnpschapters.org/ > Newsletters and articles

FNPS *Palmetto* magazines: See [here](#) (not all available)

FNPS *Sabal minor* newsletters: <https://www.fnps.org/home> under [resources](#)